Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-26 are canceled. Claims 27 through 34 are pending in this application. Claims 29 and 32 are currently amended.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Canceled).

27. (Previously presented) A fabrication method comprising:

providing a plurality of substantially close-packed solid bodies, the bodies having a state-changeable coating, the state-changeable coating having an adhesive state and a non-adhesive state, the state-changeable coating being sufficiently thin that the substantially close-packed bodies have interstices therebetween; and

causing the state-change coating to change from the non-adhesive state to the adhesive state so as to result in a solidified porous volume.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein the solid bodies are hollow.

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27 wherein the bodies are of substantially the same density throughout their respective ~~volumes.~~ volumes.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein said providing the bodies comprises:

surrounding the plurality of solid bodies with a volume of carrier liquid, the volume of carrier liquid being sufficient to coat the bodies and fill the interstices between the bodies; and

removing at least some of the carrier liquid that occupies the interstices to leave the coating with interstices devoid of the liquid.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein:

the carrier liquid includes a solvent and an adhesive material, the solvent being sufficient such that the adhesive material does not exhibit its adhesive property; and

causing the state-change coating to change from the non-adhesive state to the adhesive state includes removing a sufficient amount of solvent so that adhesive material left on the surface of the solid bodies defines the state-change coating and exhibits its adhesive property.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein:

the carrier liquid is a material above its melting temperature; and

~~the state-changeable coating is defined by that portion of the material that is located within a particular distance of the solid bodies; and~~

causing the state-change coating to change from the non-adhesive state to the adhesive state includes lowering the temperature of the material below its melting temperature.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the material is a eutectic alloy.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the material is a paraffin.